

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 05858 150641Z

11

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 EB-11

AID-20 DOTE-00 COM-08 DRC-01 /069 W

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R 150610Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9566

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 5858

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OTRA, AF

SUBJ: TRAVEL OF AFGHAN AIR AUTHORITY OFFICIAL

REF: STATE 201110

1. EMBASSY FINDING IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT PIN DOWN TRAVEL PLANS OF ELUSIVE SULTAN MAHMOUD GHAZI, AFGHAN AIR AUTHORITY PRESIDENT. WE SUSPECT PART OF REASON FOR MYSTERY MAY BE GHAZI'S RUMORED ROLE AS LIAISON BETWEEN PRESIDENT DAOUD AND ROYAL FAMILY IN ROME.

2. ACCORDING LATEST INFO, GHAZI DEPARTED KABUL ON

SEPT. 12 FOR TEHRAN WHERE HE EXPECTED REMAIN UNTIL SEPT 15. FOLLOWING THAT, HE EXPECTED TRAVEL TO U.S. AND MONTREAL VIA STOP-OFF IN ROME. AAA DIRGEN CIVIL AVIATION MALYAR STILL EXPECTED DEPART KABUL ON SEPT 21 FOR WASHINGTON FOR TALKS WITH IBRD. HIS VISIT EXPECTED COINCIDE WITH GHAZI VISIT TO WASHINGTON AS NOTED BY IBRD IN REFTEL.

3. ACCORDING PANAM EMPLOYEE WITH ARIANA FILLING IN FOR BENNETT WHO IS ON LEAVE IN U.S., GHAZI EXPECTS BE IN U.S. DURING PERIOD 21-24 SEPTEMBER. WE ASSUME THESE DATES MAY BE SOMEWHAT FLEXIBLE, BUT THAT GHAZI DOES PLAN VISIT WASHINGTON AS REPORTED BY IBRD.

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4. IN VIEW ABSENCE FROM KABUL ALL KNOWLEDGEABLE CONTACTS

IN AAA, EMBASSY SUGGESTS DEPT GET PRECISE DATE OF GHAZI
WASHINGTON VISIT FROM IBRD.
CURRAN

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